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Quality

Wool

Management of Temperate Perennial Pastures for Wool Production: Native Species (2)

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
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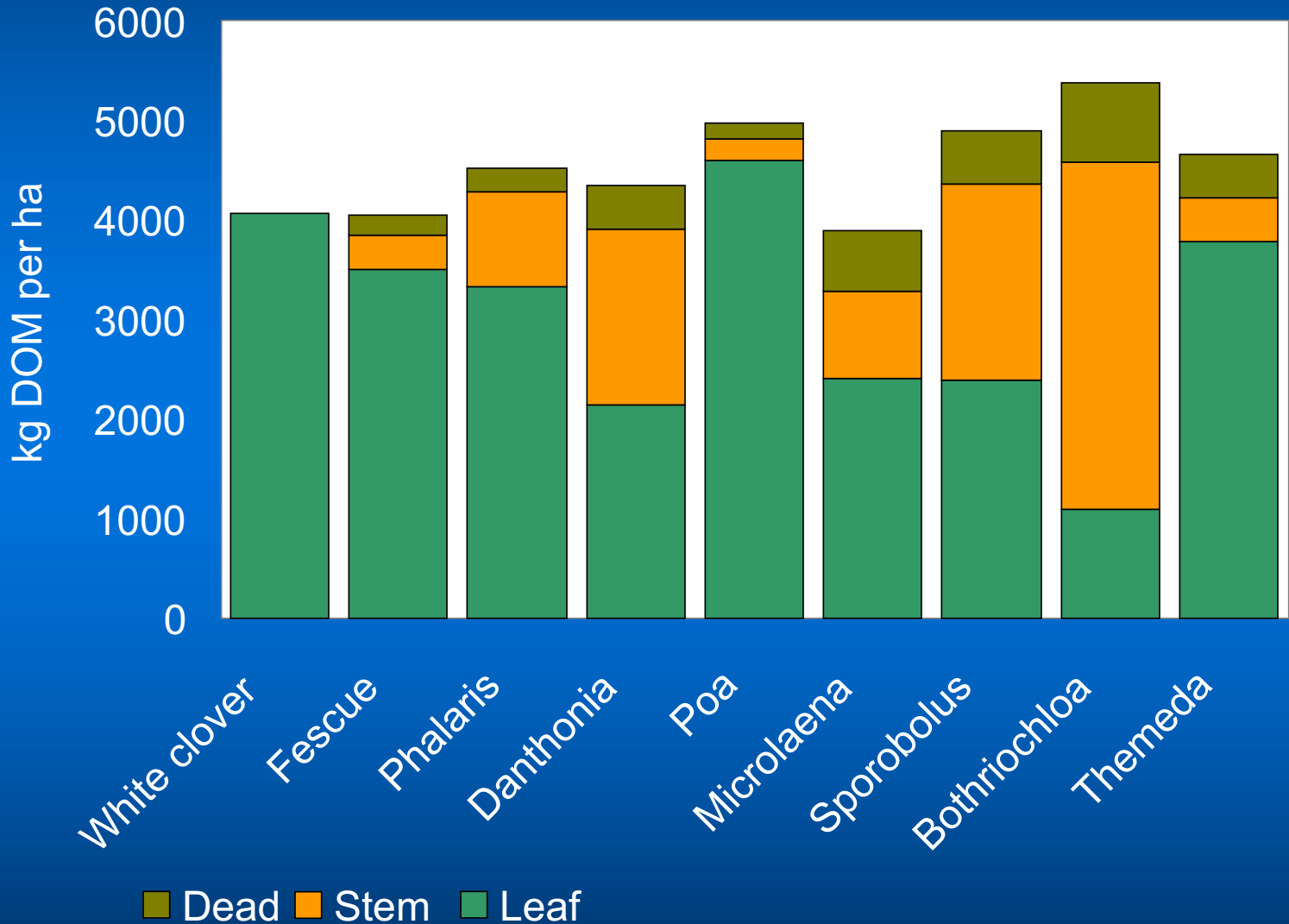
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- **“All the evidence indicates that our native plants have neither actual nor potential value....there seems to be no prospective role for these plants in the changed environment in which sown pastures are now established.”**
 - (Donald 1970)
- **“Native pastures are considerably inferior to sown pastures in quantity, quality and seasonal distribution of growth with the result that....in the more favoured regions pasture research aims at the complete replacement of native by introduced species.”**
 - (Wolfe 1972)



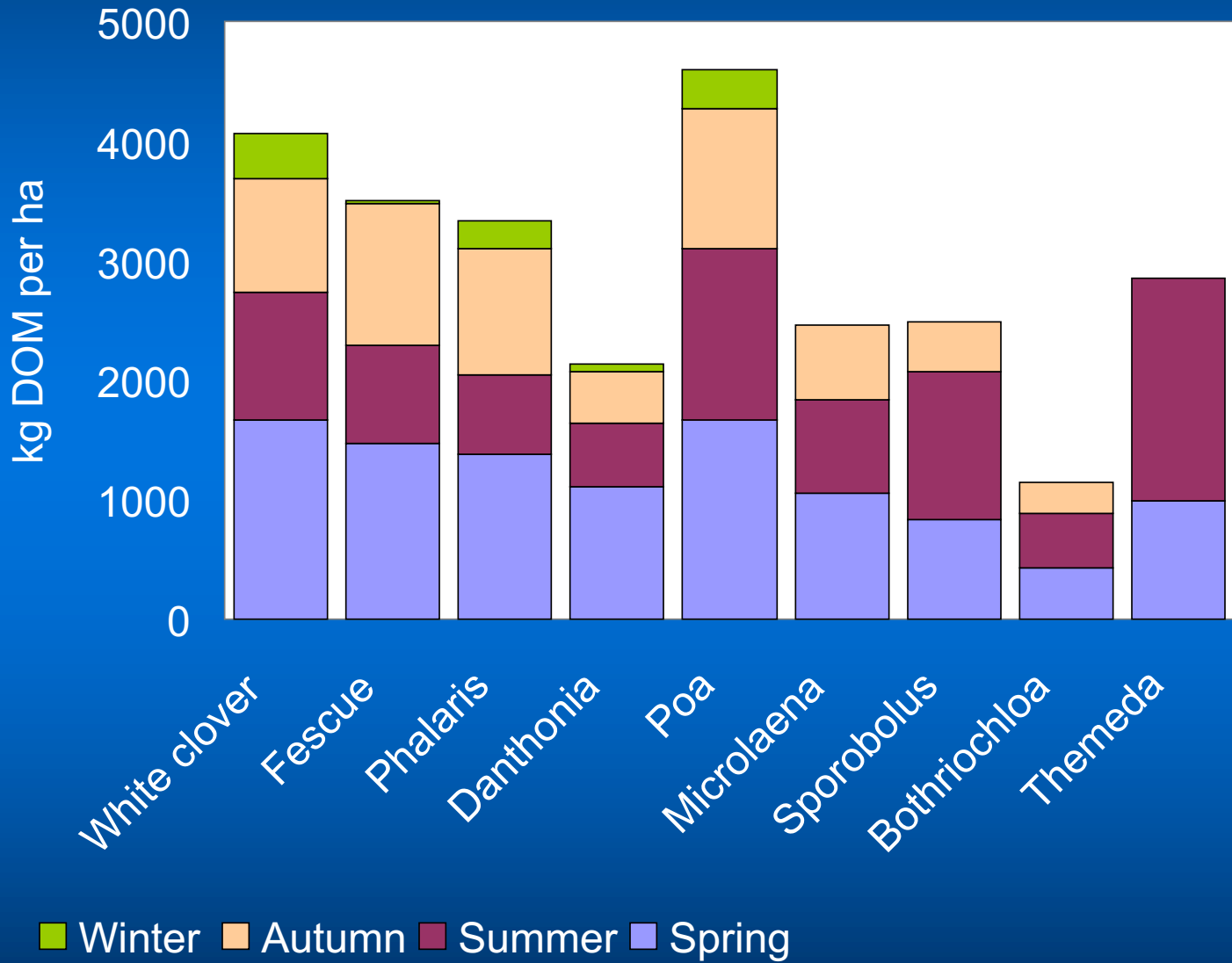
Annual production of digestible organic matter



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Seasonal production of leaf component



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- **Archer and Robinson (1988) concluded:**
 - value of native pastures for animal production varies considerably according to species present and season of growth
 - year-long green native species show great potential:
 - year-round presence of green leaves, esp. in winter
 - green leaf quality approached that of Fescue and Phalaris
 - voluntary intake of DOM only slightly lower in comparison
 - most important factor influencing animal production on all perennial grass pastures is presence of high-quality legume
 - introducing white clover into *Danthonia* or *Microlaena* dominant pastures may offer relatively low-cost pasture with high production potential, stability and nutritive value

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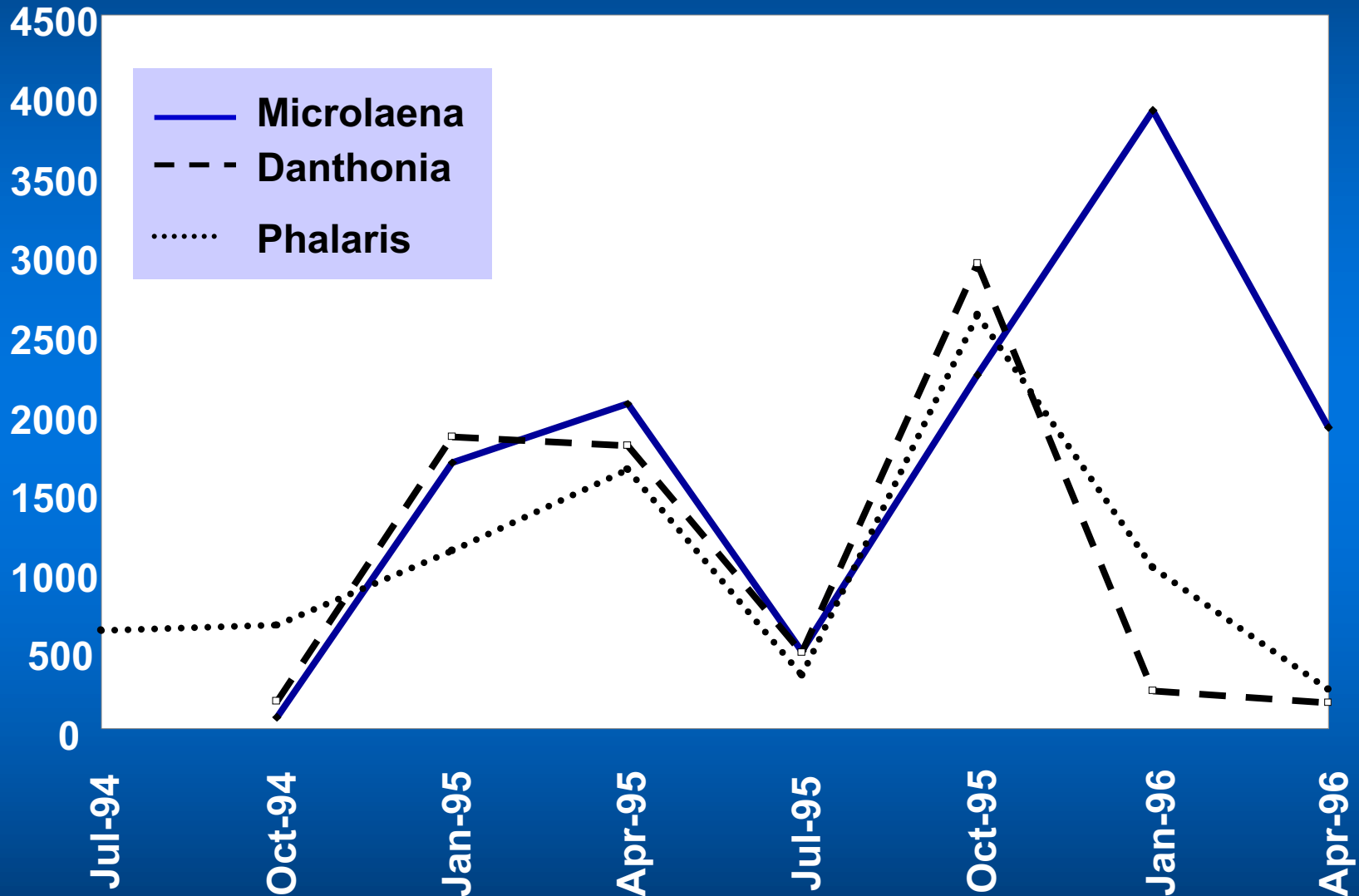
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Seasonal dry matter production

kg per ha



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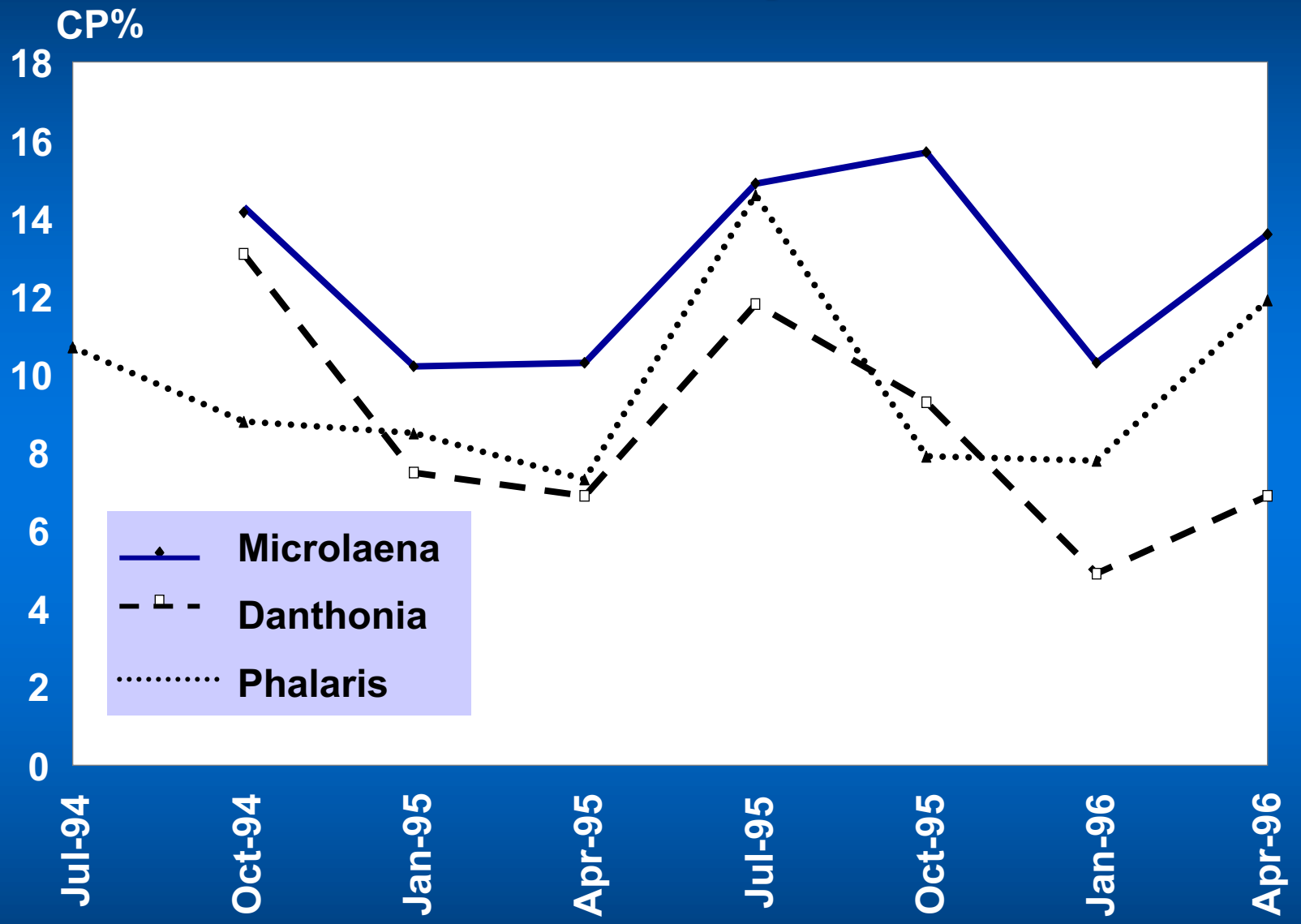
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Source: Jones (1996)



Seasonal crude protein %



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—▲— Microlaena
- -□- - Danthonia
..... Phalaris



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<i>Species</i>	<i>Plant age</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CP %</i>
Wheatgrass	6 mths	Fertilised	30.1
<i>Microlaena</i>	10 mths	Fertilised	26.9
<i>Themeda</i>	Several years	Fertilised	12.0
Phalaris	Several years	Unfertilised	7.7
Paspalum	Several years	Unfertilised	7.8